

# Activity 38

## Choosing a Pattern

Your success in completing a sewing project could depend on the pattern you choose. You need to select one that meets your needs and matches your abilities.

**Part I Directions:** Before choosing a pattern, ask yourself about the topics listed below. Write the questions in the spaces provided.

Topic:	Question to Ask Yourself:
Purpose	1.
Skills and Experience	2.
Time	3.
Cost	4.

**Part II Directions:** Learn more about choosing patterns by answering the questions below.

- What information will you find on the front of the pattern envelope?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What information will you find on the back of the pattern envelope?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What is the relationship between the number of pattern pieces and the level of difficulty of the project? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- On what four measurements are pattern sizes for females based?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- On what five measurements are pattern sizes for males based?  
\_\_\_\_\_

# Activity 39 Sewing Machine Basics

**Directions:** The sentences below are all concerned with using a sewing machine. Complete each sentence by writing the missing word in the blank provided.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. When you make a garment, the first step is to   ? the seams.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Staystitching prevents   ? and helps in turning under edges of hems.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. When making darts, stitch from the   ? end of the dart to the point.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. The line markings on the   ? plate tell you how far the needle is from the seam edge.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Most seams are   ? inch wide.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. When stitching a straight seam,   ? the fabric with both hands.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. When stitching a seam, operate the machine at a   ?, even speed.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. The best way to learn how to stitch curved seams is to   ?.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Practice stitching curved seams on   ? first, then on scraps of fabric.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. When turning a corner, slow down the machine and position the   ? exactly in the corner.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. When turning a corner, leave the needle in the fabric and lift the   ? foot.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. If your fabric ravel easily, use a   ? finish to prevent raveling.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. To make gathers, set the machine for a   ? stitch and loosen the upper tension.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. When making gathers, sew   ? rows of stitches and leave long thread ends.

# Activity 40

## Common Serger Stitches

A serger is a high-speed machine that sews, trims, and finishes a seam in one step. This very useful piece of sewing equipment can save time and handle a variety of fabrics, from slippery silks to stretchy knits.

**Directions:** Listed in the left column below are six basic types of serger stitches. In the right column, explain what each type of stitch is used for. Use a dictionary or go online to research terms that are not defined in your textbook.

Type of Stitch:	Used for:
1. Chain Stitch	1.
2. Flatlock stitch	2.
3. Overedge stitch	3.
4. Overlock stitch	4.
5. Rolled hem stitch	5.
6. Safety stitch	6.